



UW-WHITEWATER THEATRE/DANCE DEPARTMENT

CASTING POLICY

(Approved January 25, 2024)

Theatre/Dance Department Mission:

- To train theatre practitioners who are educated and competently trained to work in theatre, and/or pursue advanced academic and professional work in the theatre.
- To provide cultural growth and enrichment for the University.
- To provide cultural resources for the region beyond the campus.

As partial fulfillment of its mission, the Theatre/Dance Department produces five productions during the academic year. The work is viewed by hundreds of people and adjudicated by the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF). These productions must be of the highest quality possible for our department, and therefore, the directors hold open casting sessions. Roles in all productions are open to students and community residents on a competitive basis, with preference for student casting and BFA Performance majors. Casting is decided based on ability, the needs of student pedagogy, and the requirements of the production. *All* members of the university student community are encouraged to audition. The director is responsible for all final decisions and has the freedom to select the people who, in their best judgment, best suit the needs of the production.

Student participation is vital to the department's ability to produce any shows, and is an invaluable part of student training, including the practice of auditioning.

BFA Performance Majors and Pre-BFA Performance Majors

The department **requires** all students who have applied or been accepted into the BFA Performance program:

- to audition for all department productions, regardless of availability for the production.
- to accept the role(s) they have been assigned, regardless of principle or understudy status.
- *BFA Performance Student Production Release or Reassignment Request*
A student may request to be released from a production or reassigned to an element of the production other than performing. To be released/reassigned, students must submit a request in writing stating why they are making the request, and if the reason is due to a medical condition, the student need only disclose as much as they are willing.



Requests must be submitted a minimum of two weeks before the auditions for the production, and will be reviewed by the department. A decision regarding release/reassignment, and what the reassignment is, will be delivered in writing to the student. There is a limit of 2 release/reassignment requests allowed during the student's time in the BFA program.

BFA students are required to complete 6 credits in acting production practicums in order to fulfill their degree requirements. Applicable practicums are THE 201 and 301.

The department **expects** all students who intend to apply for the BFA Performance program:

- to audition for all department productions beginning the second semester of their first year of enrollment.
- to accept the role they have been assigned, regardless of principle or understudy status.
- to follow the aforementioned process if choosing to refrain from participating in a department production.

BA Performance Majors

The department **expects** all BA Performance students:

- to audition for all department productions.
- to accept the role they have been assigned, regardless of principle or understudy status.

BSE Theatre Education Majors, Theatre Minors, and Non-Theatre Majors

The department **encourages** all students:

- to audition for all department productions.
- to accept the role they have been assigned, regardless of principle or understudy status.

Work Opportunities Outside the UWW Theatre/Dance Department

The department wishes to provide students with experience and connections gained through work outside of the department, but only students of Junior or Senior standing are allowed to audition for a production that conflicts or interferes with the department's production schedule. The interested student must seek permission of the department before accepting such an opportunity. Any deviation from this policy must be discussed before the deviation occurs. Failure to follow this policy will result in negative consequences for the student, which may result in removal from the BFA program.